

racism curriculum which deals with violence against the lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender community, and a unique men's program featuring men educating men. All services are offered at no cost.

UASA also plays a key role in the county's pioneering SART—sexual assault response team—which unites law enforcement, mental health, legal, and advocacy programs to support victims and families. This collaborative project makes services easily accessible and minimizes the stress felt by victims. The agency is also working with the District Attorney's office to establish a county-wide Family Justice Center.

Executive Director Gloria Young has provided visionary leadership in shepherding the agency through many of these transitions. In 2004, Gloria received the Outstanding Executive Director Award from the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault. She has postponed her scheduled retirement this year in order to remain at the helm during a time when some services are threatened by the closing of a major hospital.

Madam Speaker, UASA's long-term mission is to eliminate all forms of sexual assault. I know that with its inspired leadership, dedicated staff, and committed volunteers United Against Sexual Assault of Sonoma County has brought our community a long way towards achieving this goal and will not be satisfied until they have reached it. I salute UASA on their anniversary and look forward to the day when their services are no longer needed.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN JAMES

##### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend John James, a former Nevada State Climatologist who passed away on Monday, January 15, 2007.

John moved to Nevada in 1969 to help found the Sierra Nevada College at Incline Village. Soon thereafter, in 1971, John began work as a research associate for the Forest Institute for Ocean and Mountain Studies in Carson City. Following his work as a research associate, John taught at the University of Nevada, Reno where he was an associate professor of geography and served as chair of the University's Institutional Athletic Board.

John, whose interest in weather and climate patterns was sparked while serving as a military cartographer in Korea during the Korean war, was the State's climatologist for 23 years. In this capacity, John was able to study, maintain, and document the State's weather records through a network of volunteers. Under Governor Richard Bryan, John was appointed chairman of the Governor's Drought Committee when Nevada suffered during an extended drought period.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life and legacy of my good friend John James. His record of dedicated service to the State of Nevada is admirable. He will be profoundly missed.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE STUDENT PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT

##### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2007*

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of my bill, the Student Privacy Protection Act.

The Student Privacy Protection Act is legislation that will restore the privacy rights of children and families that were taken away by a little-known provision of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the so-called No Child Left Behind Act.

Under No Child Left Behind, high schools are required to turn over lists of student contact information to the Department of Defense, which adds this information to an extensive database of children. The Department of Defense claims to need the names, addresses, and phone numbers of high school students for recruiting purposes, because it enables recruiters to contact children directly in their homes and at school, which is often done without the knowledge or consent of their parents.

As a former high school teacher and principal, I am concerned that the fundamental right of privacy has been taken away from both parents and children. U.S. Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis defined privacy as "the right to be left alone." Families are not being left alone, and their personal, private information is being divulged without their knowledge. Any database of personal information is subject to abuse. A government that was established for the pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness has no business collecting extensive personal data about Americans.

I have the greatest respect for Americans who choose to enter the military, as well as for those in the Armed Forces who engage in the recruiting process. Those efforts, however, should respect the privacy rights of children and their families.

No Child Left Behind requires schools to give military recruiters the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of students, unless their parents "opt-out" of the list. Schools are only required to provide one notice of the military recruiting list, so it can be easily overlooked by parents, or perhaps never received. Moreover, language and cultural barriers can prevent understanding of the opt-out process, especially in immigrant communities that are subject to aggressive military recruiting. If parents do not respond, and do not explicitly object to having their child's personal information released to recruiters, it is assumed that they have no objections. Under current law, they must "opt-out" in order to protect their rights.

The privacy rights of all Americans should be respected. One should not have to ask for these rights.

Today, I am reintroducing the Student Privacy Protection Act, which I introduced in the 109th Congress. This legislation will restore the privacy rights of parents and children. The Student Privacy Protection Act will change the military recruitment provision of No Child Left Behind from an "opt-out" system to "opt-in." Under my bill, families may still choose to "opt-in" to the recruiting database, but privacy will be respected by default.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the rights of students and the rights of

families, by supporting the Student Privacy Protection Act.

#### RECOGNIZING ANN RICHARDS' EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO TEXAS AND AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE

SPEECH OF

##### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 27, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life of Dorothy Ann Willis Richards, and in full support of H.R. 42—legislation recognizing the extraordinary contributions Ann Richards made to the great state of Texas and American public life.

Ann Richards had a zest for life that was evident and infectious. She was a wonderful public speaker and found ways to intimately connect with real people by tackling difficult issues that affected their everyday lives. Ann was tremendously tenacious but possessed a quick wit. She was well known for her zingy one-liners and warm sense of humor.

Committed to issues of equity and inclusion, Ann spent much of her life championing causes related to the marginalization of women and minorities in particular. She dedicated herself to increasing the role of women in politics. Ann organized training sessions throughout Texas designed to empower women in politics and succeeded in improving the visibility of women in the National Democratic Party. Ann became the Governor of Texas in 1991 and continued to champion the inclusion of all people in the political process.

While in office, Ann oversaw a program of economic revitalization that grew the state's economy. As governor, Ann appointed Zan W. Holmes Jr., the first African-American appointed to the University of Texas Board of Regents; she redirected revenue from the state lottery to a school fund to support public education; and launched the Robin Hood plan, an attempt to equalize funding across school districts. Through these measures, Ann was successful in changing the ways that both Texas and our country thought about and treated women, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, and members of the Gay, Lesbian, Transgender, and Bisexual communities. Ann once remarked that she entered politics to help those who were often ignored by the Texas' male dominated establishment.

It is with great pride that I rise in support of H.R. 42 and recognize, before all, the contributions of a wonderful woman, committed leader and champion for all.

#### NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK

##### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2007*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today, during National Peace Corps week, to commemorate the service of the current 7,749 Peace Corp volunteers making long-lasting contributions to communities in 73 countries around the world.